

THE BOMBAY COURIER.

PUBLISHED TWICE A WEEK, — EVERY SATURDAY AND TUESDAY MORNING. — PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER.

VOL. XII.]

TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER, 1833.

[NO. 2276.]

NOTICE is hereby given, that in compliance with the wishes of several members at the Presidency, and agreeable to Section 8th, Article 4th, of the Regulations, a Special General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Civil Fund will be held at the Warehouse-rooms, on this day, the 1st instant, to take into consideration certain propositions connected with the Annuity Branch of the Fund.

By order of the Trustees,
W. R. MORRIS,
Secretary.

BOMBAY,
CIVIL FUND OFFICE,
1st October, 1833.

BYCULLA CLUB.

THE Monthly Meeting of the committee will take place at the Club Room on Saturday, the 5th instant, at ½ past 4 o'clock P. M.

Tuesday, 1st October, 1833.

NOTICE is hereby given, that JEEVUN-RAMNURSEEDASS, Nautical Instrument Repairer, begs to announce that he requires for the Commander of a Vessel, one of Troughton's sextants. Should any person have one to dispose of, they will hear of a customer on applying at his shop within the Fort, in Gunbow street, opposite to Jemsetjee Jejeebhoy's office.

Bombay, 1st October, 1833.

FOR sale at the Godowns of Messrs. BIRCHIE, STEUART, AND CO., Rankin's Pale Sherry in 6 dozen cases, at Rs. 15 per dozen.

Bombay, 1st October, 1833.

FOR SALE at the Courier Office—A CODE OF SIGNALS, with a list of Vessels and their corresponding numbers in H. M. service, and the Commercial Navy of Great Britain, together with those belonging to the Port of Bombay. Price, one Rupee.

FOR SALE at the Courier Office—A few remaining copies of the BOMBAY CALENDAR and ALMANAC, printed on English Royal Paper for the present year, containing Rules, Regulations, and other matter of local interest not previously published.—Price 6 Rupees per copy.

FOR Sale—Number XX of the ORIENTAL SPORTING MAGAZINE. CONTENTS.—No. 1 The Married Hog-Hunter,—2 Reminiscences of the Fancy,—3 Song, "Fill the Goblet to the brim,"—4 The Florikan,—5 A Bison Hunt,—6 Another Wild Elephant on the Western Coast of India,—7 Captain Mundy,—8 Animals by their proper names,—9 Splendid Exploit of a Native Infantry Regiment,—10 Lines for the O. S. M.—11 Native Pharmacopoeia,—12 Hunters of Yore,—13 A Song,—14 Hunting in the Southern Mahratta Country,—15 An Epistle from the Northern Concan,—16 Steeple Chases,—17 Performances of Chester,—18 The Hunting and Shooting Diversions of the Boondelas,—19 A Sagacious Horse,—20 The Union Coach,—Races to Come, and the Racing Calendar.

FOR SALE—No. 12 of the QUARTERLY ARMY LIST. Price Rupees 3.

FOR SALE at the Courier Office, The Oriental Sporting Magazine, from No. 7 to 19, each No. 3 0 0
Blank Powers of Attorney, 0 2 0
Do. Interest Bonds, 0 2 0
Do. Policies, 1 0 0
Do. Bills of Lading, per set, 0 2 0
Do. Respondentia Bonds, 0 2 0
Do. Bills of Exchange, per set, 0 2 0
Plans of the Island, 1 0 0
Traveller's Itinerary, 5 0 0
Insolvent Debtor's Act, 3 0 0

LETTER-PRESS PRINTING, neatly executed upon moderate terms.

FOR PASSAGE TO LONDON, THE first class teak ship GILMORE, of 550 Tons, H. H. Lindsay, Commander, has poop and lower deck accommodations, fitted up in a superior style, and carries an experienced surgeon.

This ship is expected to arrive early this month, and will be despatched in all next. Plans of the cabins may be seen on application to DUNCAN GIBB, & Co. Dady's Buildings, 1st October, 1833.

THE NATIVE TROOPS.

MR. EDITOR.—Nothing is of more importance in human affairs than the tracing of events to their causes. It leads to a true and just contemplation of the nature of things. Every philosophic discovery tends with important deductions, and suggests measures beneficial to the interests of human life. The adoption of the mere pressure of circumstances, from the impulse of the moment, too often are the cause of general woe, and mankind at large, are the victims of a correct but lately famine.

and consequently investing them with a power of preventing a like evil in future, that I am now induced to interrupt my philosophic labours, and occupy a brief space of my time in communicating to you a portion of their results.

The theory of gravitation is sublime, and has deservedly gained for its discoverer an immortality of fame. The Safety Lamp has saved its thousands. But the one reaches not to the homes and the hearts of the poor and the needy, and the benefits of the other are confined to the caves of under earth. My discovery again reaches to the very means of existence of masses of mankind. But I am an humble being, contented with the good I can do, and seek not to excel, however transcendent the value of my discovery may be, the exalted names of those illustrious men to whom I have alluded.

Having premised so far, as your columns are valuable and must be variously occupied, I shall now at once proceed to show with the force and the truth of mathematic demonstration, the causes of the late, and still progressing, most extraordinary season, the causes wherefore it has been so different from its wonted nature.

First then, when the rains ought to have commenced, and it was prognosticated by the learned astrologers that they would be very abundant, to the astonishment and dismay of all, they were most deficient, and the horrors of famine stared mankind gauntly in the face. What was the cause?

The 6th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, was in Bombay; they were a set of turbulent men and powerful, and they prevented a due supply. They were removed. The rains fell most plentifully. Their successors, alas! followed their example; they too did that which they ought not to have done, and then the thunder came with its winged lightning; the winds blew fiercely, the rain came in torrents, as if the windows of heaven were at once laid open, and a second flood was about to overwhelm the human race; when lo! their commander's approach was announced. The thunder was hushed. The lightning slept in its clouds. The rain ceased to fall but in short threatening showers, as if to show that the powers of the elements still existed; and the sun, dashing away his dense canopy of dark clouds, exhibited himself in all his dazzling brilliancy.

The conduct of these evil spirits at the Presidency, of course, affected the whole country like a pestilence. But not from them alone did such extensive results proceed. It is well observed by a learned writer (vid. Durpan) that if the sepoys could do as they have done in Bombay, they must have acted similarly elsewhere—I laugh with as much scorn as a philosopher may at the old adage—the old school philosophy, De non apparentibus, et de non existentibus eadem est ratio. I am of the new school as all wise men must be; the teacher is abroad and I am one of his disciples. I maintain it then as an indubitable fact, that the native troops at Bhowndy and at Cutch, at Ahmedabad, Hursule, Kulludghie and every where else, have constantly maltreated, bruised, and beaten all the people, and plundered all the shops, and ill used even all the animals in every station, and in every neighbourhood where they have been located. It is nothing, absolutely nothing, to the purpose, that the inhabitants of those districts knew nothing about it; a man may surely be beaten, his eyes put out, his arm and leg (only one at a time) broken to pieces, and he know nothing about it. They ought to have known it, and when hereafter they discover the wrongs they have heretofore sustained, they will be much to blame if they do not divulge them—aye and in glowing colours that will make the heart shrink with sorrow, and the hair stand on end with horror. Why the Bombay military have caught the spirit of Hindoostan—like the genius of the Lamp of Aladdin—make him use his power, in evil, over the elements of India. Thus then, all the eventual changes of the season were surely owing to the native regiments, and hence the means of preventing all evils similar to those which either befel or threatened the community, whether in famine or flood, must be abundantly evident. Let them look to it, who have the power.

Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh and saved Egypt. What a dream effected for Egypt, a philosophic deduction may effect for India. But a dream was for a particular period of time only; a philosophic deduction is permanent as nature.

I have thus shown the cause of the season being so very different from its wonted nature. But many minor evils arose at the same time from the same cause; such as for instance as the illnesses of man and beast. Horses had not their usual strength, their very shoes frequently came off in a quarter of their usual time, then many people had colics and cholera and fevers and rheumatisms and the itch. People lost their hats on Branch Candy and were almost stifled with bad smells on the veil-lard—all owing doubtlessly to the native troops! But on these, though affecting the comfort and happiness of individuals and families, I will not at present dwell, but subscribe myself,

SOPHISTA.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.
Lieut. J. P. Major, 11th Regt. N. I., from Poonah.
Captain J. Fair, Aurungabad Division.
Ensign T. M. Dickenson, Marine Battalion, from Poonah.

DEPARTURE.
Capt. Hume, 10th Regt. N. I. to Poonah.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE.

BIRTH.
At Sholapoor, on Monday, the 29th September, the lady of Brigade Major William Wylie, of a daughter.

SHIPPING REPORT.

ARRIVALS.
None since our last.

DEPARTURES.
Sept. 28th Barque Fattay Raymon, Momed Woomer, Naiquedah, to Surat.

Passengers.—4 Natives.

29th Ship John Taylor, John Crawford, Master, to Liverpool.

LIST OF SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

HON'BLE COMPANY'S STEAMER.—Hugh Lindsay.

HON'BLE COMPANY'S BRIGS.—Nautilus, and Euphrates.

HON'BLE COMPANY'S SCHOONER.—Shannon.

FREE TRADERS.—Huddersfield, Boyne, Bounty Hall, and London.

COUNTRY SHIPS.—Maria, Discovery, Cyrene, Good Success, Shahool Hamud, and Ann.

PORTUGUESE.—Consolid, and Amelia.

FRENCH.—Buffon.

AMERICAN.—Waverly.

THE COURIER.

TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER, 1833.

Having been much engaged, we have only just time to state, before our paper goes to press, that the recommendation of the Governor General in Council for despatching the *Hugh Lindsay* to Suez this year, at the public expense, has been readily complied with by the Bombay Government. The time, we believe, for her departure, is not yet positively fixed. It will probably depend in some measure on the proceedings of the Bengal Government. We have little doubt, however, that the period ultimately fixed on, will, as we stated a week or two ago, be not far from the 1st of February; for, it cannot be much earlier, as the coals necessary for the trip are still in Bombay; nor much later, if any reliance is placed in the applications said to have been made to the authorities at home regarding the despatch of a steamer to Alexandria.

The plan started on the other side of India for sending Mr. Waghorn here by dawk to proceed to Malta to make arrangements with the Admiral for a Steamer to take the *Hugh Lindsay's* packets home we observe, after having been seriously entertained by certain parties in Calcutta, has finally been abandoned as too expensive. This certainly is judicious; but, we regret to say it is still proposed to send a person from here for the same purpose; as, no individual, who would probably go on such a mission would have much influence with the naval authorities in the Mediterranean;—no good therefore could result from his being sent, beyond the conveyance of the letters he might be entrusted with; and this could be obtained as well, and at much less expense, by forwarding them to the Consul at Alexandria.

With regard to the late unpleasant collision between the sepoy of the 11th. Regiment N. I. and the Police, we observe it stated in the *Gazette* of Saturday, but upon what authority does not appear, that it is the firm determination of Government to put down without loss of time, the insubordinate spirit manifested on that occasion; and that should the measures which are to be adopted fail to have the effect also, of checking the depredations on property, committed by native corps when stationed here, that they will be removed altogether. Should this change in the military arrangements of the island ever take place, we have no doubt from the thorough and judicious alterations now making in the police, that that body will be found performing its proper functions as perfectly as can be expected with a large and fluctuating population like the one it has to deal with.

As we are upon this subject, we must observe that while nothing is more unjust and absurd than to attribute, as is sometimes done, every outrage committed to the native corps, nothing on the other hand is more likely to have an injurious effect than maintaining their immaculate purity, as certain parties seem disposed to do. This unfortunately has the effect of prejudicing the public more thoroughly than ever against them; and by tending to relax the strict scrutiny into their conduct, which the temptation they are exposed to requires, serves only to increase the evil complained of.

CALCUTTA.

THE RED ROVER.

TO MESSRS. BRIGHTMAN AND CO.

DEAR SIRS,—According to your wish, I beg to send you a detailed statement of the loss of our unfortunate friend, Marshall—also extract from the Log Book.

"The *Rover* cleared Macao Roads on the 28th June, and experienced fresh south-west winds with a strong current to the northward and eastward, with which, up to the period of Captain Marshall's fate, she advanced per Log 7 and 7½ knots per hour close hauled, and a heavy sea on at the same time. On the 10th July at noon she was in Lat. 11° 14' north, 111° 14' east; this is according to the last Log entered by Captain Marshall. In the following day's Log, this extract appears "8° 30' standing south by east in heavy squalls, making 7½ knots per hour, carried away the star-board main brace bumpkin,—Captain Marshall immediately turned to, to clear the wreck himself. On the ship giving a heavy-weather roll, his weight, acting on the bumpkin (which, by a strange fatality, he had disconnected from the quarter with a boat chissel) carried him overboard with it in his grasp, and though every possible exertion was made to save him, by veering ship, and sending hands to the masthead to keep an eye on him, we lost sight of him in the very squally state of the weather, and through such a mountainous sea running, it was impossible to lower a boat or see far. A bamboo chair was thrown overboard immediately after the accident—this also disappeared." At 10 we tacked to the southward blowing a strong gale, and continued taking advantage of every shift of wind in getting to the southward. On the 21st July, we had the meteoric balls of fire (often observed at sea in bad weather) at our top gallant mast head. On the 2d. at 3 P. M., saw a sail on our star-board bow, 5 P. M. hove too under her lee, lowered the gig and went on board; found her to be the American Ship *Cobbett*, Captain Low,

from London 102 days, in Long. 106° east, Lat. 4°, which corresponded with ours. The *Cobbett* was bound to Manilla, thence to Canton—wrote Captain Clifton by her. Captain Low very kindly supplied us with provisions, and would not hear of payment.—6. P. M. parted company. 5th August, 11 A. M. saw Palo Timor; from this to the 7th working inside of it with a strong current to the northward. 13th August we run through the inner channel off Romania Point, a very narrow passage, and at 11 30 on the 14th anchored in Singapore Roads!" On the 15th I took charge of the *Rover*. In conclusion, I beg to call your attention to the meritorious conduct of Mr. Howard, chief officer, a young man who deserves great credit in persevering and beating down the China sea after the loss of his Commander.

I am Sirs,

Your faithful servant,
(Signed) T. W. WHITTLE,
Commanding *Red Rover*.

Calcutta, 9th September, 1833.
[Cal. Cour. Sept. 10.]

The *Tuscany*, with her Ice Cargo, is but just arrived off town. Thus several days have been lost in a case requiring the utmost expedition which a Steamer could afford. We understand that, since the vessel entered the river, the pumps have indicated an increased ratio of daily wastage by the increased heat of the surrounding water and atmosphere. It is also to be feared that, as there has been no time to prepare a proper Ice-house, much loss will occur in the place of deposit on shore, as well as in landing of the Ice before it comes to be distributed. Still, notwithstanding so many causes of reduction in the quantity that will ultimately be sold, it is the intention of Mr. W. C. Rogers, the gentleman in charge of it, to limit his price to the very moderate rate of four annas per seer, and we believe that from to-morrow he will be ready to supply applicants. Leave has very properly been given to land it after sun-set and duty-free.—*Ibid.*

We publish an interesting letter from Captain Whittle, the present Commander of the *Red Rover*, describing the accident by which Mr. Marshall was drowned. After that occurrence, the command of the vessel devolved to his chief officer, Mr. Howard, a young man under twenty, who had the skill to bring her down to Singapore against a boisterous monsoon, with only the aid of a young Apprentice to relieve him from the cares and fatigues of the watch, from the 10th July to the 14th August. Mr. Howard has thus had an opportunity to distinguish himself at a very early period of his nautical career, which we trust will not be forgotten by the shipping interest in Calcutta. But, besides this claim to future mercantile patronage, he has, by the usages of Lloyd's, a direct pecuniary claim upon such of the Insurance Offices as have risks upon the *Rover*, for having so effectually protected their interests, by the unusual fatigue and responsibility to which he has been exposed in bringing the vessel safely to her port.—*Ibid.*

THE EARTHQUAKE.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

MONGHYR, 2d SEPTEMBER, 1833.—Monday, 26th August, about 6 P. M., a slight shock was felt by many people, but there was nothing particular in the aspect of the sky to attract attention: the weather was calm and damp during the day—we had light east winds and flying clouds:—at night I awoke suddenly, the whole Bungalow shaking, but ceased before I could bring a light from the adjoining room—time 11h. 30' P. M., my Choukedar and another servant were awake, but could give me no satisfactory information—atmosphere same as before, and no variation in thermometer. I returned to bed, but before I could compose myself to sleep, I heard a noise to the eastward, not unlike a carriage going over a draw-bridge, and before I could rise, a severer shock than the former came on, and continued about 40 or 45 seconds. I was first going for the light, but the agitation was so great that I turned for the outer door, and before I could get outside, the shock was over; the pendulum of my clock stopped at 11h. 50'. The first noise was like a shower of hail on the tiles of my Bungalow and then doors, furniture, &c., rattled violently. I am told that in pauka houses the vibration continued upwards, of an hour, the venetians and doors rattling at each jirk like volleys of musquetry, and many families who quitted their house and sat outside till morning, counted 15 different shocks. I am inclined to think that my Bungalow being built with unburnt bricks is the cause of my not feeling the inferior shocks, for I remained in the verandah till past 1 o'clock, and about 6 o'clock a smart shock was felt. Boats at the Ghat were shook, but the dandees could not say if the water was agitated or not—atmosphere calm, clear and damp. Several pukka houses in the town have sustained serious injury, and all are more or less cracked. I observe that the houses most damaged are those that have had new buildings added to the old,—the same is the case with houses in the Fort. I hear that all the clocks at the station stopped with the 2d or severe shock, and four of them faced four different points of the compass—various opinions prevail as to direction of the motion, but all are unanimous of a sensation of giddiness and sickness. Inferior shocks have been felt at an interval of 8 to 5 hours up to this date. I have noted

them as follows, as perceived at my place: 30th August, 5^h 35' A.M.; 31st August, 9^h 10' A.M. and 12^h 10' P.M.; 2d September, 0^h 10' A.M.—all these were perceptible in the vicinity, even across the river.

I have noted that there has been very little thunder or lightning this season, and a want of rain at the commencement as well as at present. The river is and has been unusually low: we generally have the river water into the Fort Tanks early in August, but it has not yet been high enough to run into the Fort ditch, and is now 2 feet below that level.

The consternation is great amongst all the inhabitants: at night they quit their dwellings and sleep under mats, cloth awnings, and many without any covering; fortunately we have had no rain till to-day, yet sickness may be apprehended hereafter—a very general opinion exists that the Earth is in constant motion; a trough of mercury gives no indication; still there is a sensation of giddiness occasionally, even when no tremor is felt.

We have accounts of this Earthquake being felt both to the north and south, but I have not been able to learn if the springs of water in the neighbouring hills have been affected.—*Calcutta Courier, Sept. 11.*

A regular establishment in the Bazar for the manufacture of forged notes has been suppressed by the vigilance of the police. On receiving information of its existence, Sergeant Macann proceeded to the spot, and contrived to get into the house, when a native was in the act of receiving a parcel of altered notes of the India Bank (made to resemble Bank of Bengal notes) for circulation. Mr. Macann seized a handful of them, and a struggle ensued, during which the passer of notes made his escape; but the tenant of the house, the chief culprit, was secured. The premises were so contrived as to elude discovery of the work-shop by an ordinary observer, but not the scrutinising eye of Mr. Macann, who succeeded in penetrating into the *arcana* of the unholy place, and there found a complete set of graving and engine turning tools for executing the most delicate work, and a couple of plates, almost finished, in exact imitation of the present Bank of Bengal note and its reverse. The discovery was just in time. Another week might have inundated Calcutta with so many well executed forgeries, as to create an alarm of serious injury to the Bank circulation,—not to mention the losses of those who would have become the unfortunate dupes of this well-planned villany.

The Bank of Bengal has had a narrow escape. But let not the Directors now repose in the fancied security of their finely engraved notes.—The stimulus of gain has sharpened the tools and the intellects of Bengallee workmen, and developed in a fraudulent occupation, those talents which might naturalise the pictorial engraving and the steam engine among the works of Calcutta industry. But whether it be in the power of the Directors, or not, to render their plates more difficult of imitation, it is at least their duty as well as their interest to afford the public the protection of their vigilance and resources, not only to detect and root out forgery, but to follow up the discovery by prosecuting the parties concerned. We say this, because it is commonly reported, that, in consequence of the heavy costs (some seven or eight thousand rupees) of a former prosecution, a resolution was taken at the Bank not to volunteer any more prosecutions. This is surely not consistent with the implied duties attached to a privileged circulation. There is more public spirit in the close monopoly of the Bank of England.—*Ibid.*

A few days ago our brother of the *Hurkaru* thought it "a little too absurd" to expect that a letter, forwarded via the Cape to England, could arrive in time to provide arrangements at Malta for the conveyance of the *Hugh Lindsay's* next packets from Alexandria. He forgot that Mr. Waghorn has said, in one of his published letters, that a person in authority had already written by the *Arab* to make preparations. That letter may arrive by Christmas, without supposing a very extraordinary passage. But there would even now be time enough to send a letter *via* the Cape and England to Malta, for the purpose, supposing the *Hugh Lindsay* to be destined to start from Bombay on the 1st February, which (not the middle of January) was the date suggested at the Conference at Government House. We now learn, however, that the *Hugh Lindsay* is not to leave Bombay, until it is certainly known that the necessary arrangements are made in the Mediterranean; and that both Government and the Committee are of opinion, that it would be a waste of money to despatch a vessel and messenger from Calcutta—seeing that a letter by post to Bombay may procure a quicker, as well as a much cheaper, despatch of the proposed embassy to Egypt from that place. Mr. Waghorn has lost his chance of this Agency, by coming round to Calcutta.

By-the-bye, the terms on which Messrs. Harris and Co. of Alexandria, offered to Mr. Waghorn to supply coals at Suez and Cosseir, are widely different from those of (we believe) Messrs. Briggs and Co. cited by our Correspondent "A Sailor," in July last. The former are £4 and £4-5s. per ton, exclusive of the cost and conveyance to Alexandria, (see *India Gazette* of 10th September;) the former were £3-5s. to £3-8s. per ton, all charges and cost inclusive. We hope Mr. Waghorn is incorrect, but are not very sanguine about it, as we have elsewhere met with information equally discouraging as to the heavy expense of providing fuel by any means at Suez.—*Calcutta Courier, Sept. 13.*

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.

Remarks on the present State of the Law of Marriage affecting British Subjects in India.

A marriage, which has lately been solemnized in the Union Chapel, has given rise to much discussion in the public papers. Its validity, it has been hinted, is doubtful, and the departure from the common, we cannot call it the prescribed, mode of celebration, until we know by what authority, has been characterized as indecent. The question is one in which a large portion of this community is deeply interested, and we think that if we can succeed, by a dispassionate discussion of the subject, in removing the doubts which have been attempted to be raised, and in shewing that in India a marriage in a Dissenting Chapel is, by the civil and criminal courts, considered as legal, as if celebrated, according to the usual forms, in the Cathedral, we shall perform a service acceptable to many of our readers. We might perhaps with justice complain of some observations upon the subject, which would not have been less forcible had they been advanced with more courtesy, and which have not derived any additional weight from the authoritative manner in which they have been urged. But our object simply is to arrive at a correct conclusion, and in endeavouring to do so, we shall therefore avoid whatever might be calculated to give offence.

It were indeed strange, if, after our countrymen have been settled for above two hundred years in this country, the way in which they may legally contract the most important engagement in life, were a question still open to dispute. Custom has hitherto sanctioned particular forms within the Presidency, which have been likewise observed at those stations in the interior where the Company have provided a Chaplain. At those stations where there has been no clergymen of the established church, the parties have generally thought it necessary to obtain a licence either from the Supreme Court or from the Bishop's Registrar, and the ceremony has been performed by the magistrate of the district, or by the commanding officer of the station. Few persons have given themselves the trouble of enquiring by what authority the particular forms were prescribed. They acquiesced in those which they found established. At length, however, a Dissenter took the trouble of inquiring, whether the ceremony might not be as legally performed by his own minister in his own place of worship, as by a Company's Chaplain in the Cathedral. He satisfied himself that it might, and he was married accordingly. We are now told that the ceremony was irregular, and perhaps invalid. We suspect that the parties starting the objection have not duly considered the consequences resulting from it, and that they would have hesitated to raise doubts as to the legality of the marriage in the Union Chapel, had they been aware, that, if there be any foundation for them, the children of many of the marriages in the interior are illegitimate. This is a startling position, but we maintain it is strictly true. The statute of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 91, has been referred to as an act passed for India, and as proving that doubts were entertained by the legislature. Where it was discovered that the enactment was made with the particular view of legalizing marriages in this country, we know not. It certainly was not from the act itself, which refers to marriages in Ambassadors' Chapels, in foreign countries, and within the lines of a British Army serving abroad. Now with the exception of those in the Indian cantonments, it is easy to point out doubts which might reasonably have been entertained respecting the validity of such marriages, which before the act, to render them legal, ought to have been celebrated either according to the law of the country where the parties were, or of England as it then existed, i. e. according to the provisions of the Marriage Act. These doubts, as we hope to shew, in no way apply to India, since the English law was introduced here in 1726. We do not, however, wish to dispute about this question. We are willing to admit that the act, referred to would have made legal the marriages in the cantonments here, had they not been so before. But where, if that statute were necessary, is the act to declare valid the marriages before magistrates at the civil stations? The forms observed in the Cathedral are those directed by the Marriage Act, the 26 of Geo. c. 33; it they cannot be dispensed with in a dissenting chapel, by what authority, we ask, are they neglected at the civil station in the interior? Who in India has the power of authorizing the civil magistrate to perform the marriage service in a private house in the mofussil, if the ceremony cannot be legally celebrated by a dissenting minister in a chapel in Calcutta? The necessity of the case affords no answer to this question.

But the English Marriage Act does not extend to this country. To be satisfied of this, it is not necessary that a lawyer be consulted. Those who will take the trouble of looking at the act will find, that the last words in it are, "provided always, that nothing in this act contained, shall extend—to any marriages solemnized beyond the seas." These words are too clear to admit of doubt; the only question is, has the statute, by any subsequent act of the legislature, been extended to India. That this has not been done, we assert, without fear of contradiction. By the charter of Geo. I. in the year 1726, the common and statute law, at that time extant in England, was introduced into the Indian Presidencies, and it has since been generally held by the judges of the King's Courts that no subsequent enactments, unless expressly extended to this country, are here binding. The Marriage Act was not passed until many years after the granting of this Charter. A case which occurred at another Presidency, within the collection of the same who are still in this country, is decisive of this question. In the year 1803

C. Teesdale obtained, from the then Governor of Madras, a licence authorizing his marriage with Barbara Ann Latour, who was at the time under age. The licence was afterwards revoked upon the application of the young lady's brother; and the parties, who were both Protestants, were subsequently married by a Roman Catholic priest, according to the form of the Romish Church. The priest, before he performed the ceremony informed them, that unless they were both Roman Catholics the ceremony was invalid. The parties soon after went to England, where the validity of the Indian marriage being disputed, it was decided, in the year 1816, by Sir Vicary Gibbs, in the court of Common Pleas, to be a legal marriage; "since it was a marriage between British subjects, celebrated in a British settlement, according to the law of England, as they existed before the marriage Act; and which, if it had been celebrated there before that statute, would have been valid."

The law of marriage as it now prevails in India, with the single exception of the Scotch Marriage Act, to which we shall afterwards advert, is the law of England as it stood before the year 1726. The state of the matrimonial law of England at the period we have mentioned, is most fully and clearly laid down by Sir William Scott in his elaborate judgment in the case of Dalrymple against Dalrymple, which has always since been referred to as a conclusive authority upon this subject. From this it appears that in England before the act of Geo. II. marriages were always governed by the canon law, and that, by that law, a contract of marriage entered into *per verba de presentibus*, or in words of the present tense, between persons able to contract, was an actual marriage. The law of England, says Blackstone, considered it in no other light than as a civil contract; the holiness of the matrimonial state was left entirely to the Ecclesiastical Courts. No particular ceremony and form of words were prescribed for its celebration; all that was necessary, in other cases of contract, was, that the parties contracting should distinctly express their intention. The children of such a marriage were legitimate, and the husband and wife were entitled, in the civil courts, to all the rights arising out of the married state, or to be punished for bigamy by the criminal, if they transgressed the law. If however the husband were obliged to have recourse to the Ecclesiastical Court, to establish any right, and the validity of the marriage were there questioned, it was necessary to shew that it had been solemnized by a person in holy orders. The only authority, we believe, for this, is a decree of Pope Innocent III., before whose time the presence of a priest was not required by the Canon Law. In the reign of Queen Ann, an unfortunate Sabatarian, named Baydon, happened to transgress this decree by having himself married by a minister of his own persuasion, forgetting that that minister was, in the eye of the law, a mere layman. He was told by the court of delegates, in which he sued after his wife's death, that he could not obtain the right which he demanded, because he could not prove himself to have been married *per presbyterum sacris ordinibus constitutum*, which had been the constant form of pleading a marriage. We hope it will never be necessary, in order to defeat a husband's rights, to translate this plea, which has not, we believe, yet been used for the purpose, since the pleadings have been in the English language. Should, however, any of our readers who are husbands, wish to resort to the Ecclesiastical Courts, but be prevented by the Pope's Bull, we can tell them, for their consolation, that, while their wives are living, they may at any time, by having the marriage ceremony again performed by a clergyman of the establishment, entitle themselves to all the *privileges* of suing before those tribunals.

The act of the 53 Geo. III. c. 84, declaring certain marriages solemnized in India by ministers of the church of Scotland to be valid, has in no respect altered the law applicable to this country, except in the particular instances to which it relates. The Ecclesiastical Courts would now be obliged, either to acknowledge the Scotch chaplain as a person in holy orders, or the marriage by him to be as valid as if the ceremony had been performed by a priest. With the exception of this change, it merely declares that to be law which was so before. It is, we think a most inconsiderate piece of legislation, passed without due inquiry as to its necessity; or, supposing it which we do not admit, to have been necessary, leaving those cases of marriages by officers and magistrates in the interior totally unprovided for: the act referred to as legalizing the former, not having then been passed.

We believe that the above will, upon enquiry, be found to be a correct statement of the law upon this subject as it now exists in India.

Much has been said about the mischiefs and irregularities likely to arise from this state of the law; and we have heard them urged as a reason for upholding the present system. We freely admit that much mischief may happen: but we deny the expediency of endeavouring to obviate it by an attempt to continue and enforce restrictions, which are not binding. Instead of this a legislative enactment should be obtained, establishing some legal form for the registration of the marriages of Christians and British subjects in India. This too is the more necessary, because there is at present no law to regulate the marriages of East Indians and Native Christians residing beyond the Mahratta ditch. There can be no difficulty in providing effectual checks against secret and irregular marriages, and for

The authority of the canons of 1603 cannot be relied upon, since it was decided by Lord Hardwicke, in the year 1736, that as they have not been confirmed by Parliament, they do not bind the laity, even when suing in Ecclesiastical Courts. It is, we believe, under the authority of the 103rd of these canons that the marriage licences are here granted.

preventing marriages, without the consent of parents or guardians, when either of the parties happen to be a minor. Further the legislature ought not to interfere, but to leave the religious part of the ceremony and the feelings and belief of the individuals. We trust we shall never have the English Marriage Act extended to this country. The objections to many of its provisions have been often pointed out; they only require to be stated, in order to be admitted by every unprejudiced mind. For who at the present day will not join in condemning a law, by which the Roman Catholics are compelled, at the altar of a church which they deem heretical, to join in a religious ceremony, performed by a minister, who believes their worship to be idolatrous; and the Unitarian is obliged to be married by the form of joining in a service, the prayer of which, according to his creed, is blasphemous. The sincerest friends of the Established Church are the most anxious to see this blot removed from the statute book.

We are glad to find that this subject is now exciting attention at home. On the 28th of last March, Mr. Patten gave notice in the House of Commons that he should move to bring in a bill to legalize the marriage of Roman Catholics by their own clergymen. On the same evening also a select committee was appointed to consider the general state of the laws relating to the registries of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials in England and Wales. Mr. Wilks, by whom the subject was introduced, stated that his plan would render it imperative for the established clergy to keep the registries; but that he was for rendering them, in this respect, rather civil than religious officers.—*Christian Observer, for September.*

DELHI.

THE POST OFFICE.

Internal communication, in all its branches, has hitherto been exceedingly neglected by the Government of this country. The want of good roads and bridges, and the imperfect arrangements at Ferries, are not the present subjects of discussion. But with every allowance for such deficiencies, the conveyance of letters, except through recent improvements on one line of road, is unnecessarily slow. The Dawk Banghy is slow, expensive, and unsafe; and the Palankeen Dawk is slow and unpleasant.

While the public is indifferently served by these establishments, it will be evident that the Government loses much revenue which it might derive from them, were they brought to a state of greater efficiency. Speed and security above all things are required, to render the Post office more useful and productive. If proof were necessary of the effect of celerity in increasing correspondence, it is afforded by the employment of horsemen, who, carrying the mail six instead of four miles an hour though costing much more, have made the receipts, in one division at least, bear the same proportion to the expenditure which they did on the old system. The natives whose wants are almost entirely overlooked by us, expend perhaps ten times the sum that we receive, on private Dawks, cossids, and running Camels, for conveying light articles which they would prefer to send by the Public conveyances, were these equally expeditious, cheap, and secure. All these requisites for obtaining their contributions may be commanded by laying appropriate bounties on successful exertion, and corresponding drawbacks on failure, in the different branches of internal communication. The existing constitution of the department, however, is bad, and I fear incorrigible; though certainly better than the transfer which is threatened of the whole of the business to Collectors, who are already overburdened with more attractive duties. Government now begins impolitically, by disclaiming all responsibility whatever. The Postmaster General has no means of exercising a beneficial controul over the mass of multifarious and complicated details described in my former paper. The Deputy Postmasters, without pecuniary or any other inducements to be zealous, are neither answerable for themselves nor their subordinates: and the Natives on whom the whole of the ordinary business is therefore thrown, are of a class ever prone to seek compensation for laborious duties in illicit gains, who generally betray whatever trust is reposed in them. What wonder, then, if Persian letters for one person, are sometimes sold to another, Dawk bearers occasionally ill paid, and the Banghy rified of goods worth ten thousand Rupees in one year? To remove most of the evils and supply the defects referred to, I propose that every Deputy Postmaster receiving the amount of his present disbursements as personal allowance, shall become a responsible Contractor for the performance of all the duties of his division, employing what men and what means he chooses. He is to give security proportionate to the trust. His remuneration, which I am to treat of under another head, will increase with the augmentation of income to the Department that his efforts assist in causing, and decrease by the forfeiture of a portion of it for every failure in the execution of his undertaking. With Duties every where acting on these terms, the Postmaster General will find his superintendence reduced to the practicability of ascertaining that each fulfils his engagements, and of determining the penalties incurred, in passing the monthly bills. This arrangement provides for the efficient management of the business as at present prescribed, but the principle of it is specially applicable to the improvements which I have now to suggest.

Conveyance of letters. No Dawk ought to stop longer than necessity demands at any station whence it is sent and thence it is delivered. No time, so much neglected by every part of the Government, should be laid down in each

Department, to settle the hours for despatching the mails so as to effect the object in view. No two divisions being exactly alike, a separate arrangement in each is also necessary for conveying the Dawks at the various degrees of speed above the ordinary rate of four miles an hour, in order that whenever greater expedition promises to repay the additional expense, it may be introduced without delay. A more equitable and more simple ratio of remuneration than that mentioned in my last paper for the Calcutta and Lodiana road, might I think be devised, by allowing an increase of one fifth on the original sum for every successive half mile between 4½ and 7 miles an hour. Thus, suppose the payment for carrying the mail 4½ in the hour to be 100, the contractor will receive for expediting it to 5 miles an hour 120 Rupees; for 5½ 140 for 6½ 180; and for 7 miles an hour 200 Rupees a month, or double.

After speed the next object and one of primary importance, is safety. The injunction against sending valuables by the letter Dawk should be continued, and if it is attended to we need not apprehend open robberies in this branch of the Department. For the loss, the damage, and wrong transmission of every letter, or entire Packet, the Contractor ought to incur a pecuniary penalty, greater in the last mentioned case, but sufficient in both to deter him from neglecting the proper precautions. It would be a simple and apparently complete arrangement to make him who packs and despatches letters, insure them against injury from wet, till they reach their destination. But the present plan of wrapping the packets in one, two, or three covers of common wax cloth, which do not exclude even heavy rain when exposed to it in an open wallet, afford no protection against soaking: so that the person, from whose Office things are sent, cannot be answerable for the necessary measures being taken to secure them from exposure to showers and immersion in Nullahs or Pools of water, beyond his own limits. It should be one of the engagements of every Postmaster, however, to have a water proof bag of cloth, large enough to contain all the mails conveyed on each road of his division: and as such bags, though easily made capable of standing all ordinary trials, are constantly liable to be pierced or torn, they require leather wallets to enclose them entirely. These last, well made and of good materials, with a neck which can be rolled up and fastened with thongs in a manner easier conceived than described, they will suffice to guard the cloth bags from injury, and further help to preserve the letters, inside of both, from probable accidents of every description. These articles or something better, for the reception of the packets, ought to undergo inspection at every transfer of the Dawk, the receiver acknowledging the efficiency of the wallet and bag in which the mail reached him, or reporting their inefficiency. No difficulty can arise in this transaction, as each of the parties concerned, must be present in person or by deputy, on delivering over and taking charge of the Dawk, on its arrival in one division from another. The contracting Postmaster should therefore be made responsible for the state of what is sufficient, with proper care, for the protection of letters. But the packets in transit being all sealed, he can answer only for their number and exterior appearance. If the outside of them, however come to him in a wet condition, he will at once know that the bag and wallet are pervious to water, and let the blame fall on the owner.

I doubt if it is possible to abolish Native Dawks by law or force. But I am of opinion that the confidence produced by the responsibility of our Postmasters, and still more celerity of conveyance, would diminish their numbers. Were we besides to compromise with the remaining rivals in trade, and to carry their packets at so much per pound, leaving them their personal gains for collecting letters, we might soon obtain the money now expended on the establishments of Runners, Horsemen, or Camels which they employ. It does not seem foreign to the subject, in this place, to suggest the expediency of effectually opening the communication through the Deccan between Agra and Bombay. Were the road by Gualior, Hissarabad, Aurangabad, &c. placed under the Postmaster General of Bengal, and expedited to five miles an hour, a vast increase of correspondence between our Upper Provinces and Europe would take place when Steam Vessels begin to sail regularly from Bombay and arrive from the Red Sea. Branches from the same great road would supply Nagpore, Allahabad, and the Upper Stations on the Ganges.—*Delhi Gazette Aug. 10.*

THE REVIEWER.

Remarks on Patronage in India, proving its indispensable utility, with strictures on the changes proposed by certain wild theorists on a system which has worked to admiration. By a Covenanted servant of the Honorable East India Company. P. P. 262, Black, Berry, and Co. Leadenhall Street, 1833.

This is an invaluable pamphlet on a highly interesting subject which is believed to have had considerable effect in persuading Lord Grey to continue that Patronage to the Honorable Company, which, in their hands, has already done so much for India. Though huckstering is to be given up to the vulgar herd of English merchants, the Princes of modern Tyre are still to have a monopoly of the Patronage the only Trade with the East by which they can create this noble traffic lucrative and dignified sinecures will be acceptable to the great men of the West, and not ungenerately

in money, but legally in kind, at home. These nominees again, having a right to distribute local preferences as part of their endowments, will perhaps more universally than hitherto please their fancies without regard to that equivocal and dangerous attribute called Ability in Public Officers. These benefits to the country will naturally demand some sacrifice on the part of inferior servants of the Company, whose friends can afford no consideration for their nominations to this famous land of the sun. On reading this excellent work they cannot we should hope, grudge to surrender a little nose of their salaries Pay and Batta.

We are not ashamed to confess that the author's reasoning has shaken certain opinions which the cant of ordinary society and the spirit of innovation now raging, had deeply implanted in our own mind. The covenanted servant proves, very satisfactorily, that what the vulgar call great talents would be not only unnecessary, but positively injurious, to the Public Services in India. In an introductory chapter he demonstrates with a mathematical accuracy, superior to mere induction, that as the centre of the circle is farthest from the circumference, in matter, so is mediocrity of mind the quality most remote from error in the conduct of affairs. The next section of this interesting work is a classical commentary on the story of Phaeton, which he shews to be a moral allegory to warn mankind against the danger of giving the Reins of State to able men. He suggests without however, insisting upon it, that after the renewal of their charter the Hon'ble Company should change their motto to "In medio tutissimus ibis," four words which embody more wisdom than the *Wealth of Nations* and the *Spirit of Laws* put together. "It is readily admitted," continues he "that the cleverest people do not succeed best in private life, yet with flagrant inconsistency the great majority, if they had their will, would entrust those very 'men of talents' with the direction of public affairs while they are declared incompetent to manage their own." Our author then proceeds to adduce practical illustrations of the incontrovertible soundness of his doctrine.

Pitt, Fox, Burke and Canning, were all men of intellect, but in the higher powers of a statesman which is practically manifested in subverting and creating foreign kingdoms, none of them equalled the triumphal career of Lord Castlereagh, who is acknowledged to have no pretensions to capacity.

On coming to the main subject of India our author, attacking the pseudo philosophers of Mechanic Institutions with their own weapons, demonstrates that to make motion perpetual as it is only necessary to remove the impediments, so the British Power in the East has no limits unless men of abilities stand in the way.

"Patronage," says he, has hitherto been the great engine under Providence, of keeping them at a distance, and allowing the Empire to expand. I allow that individuals distinguished for talent have been employed, and a Governor General finds it difficult to dispense with their services in times of difficulty and danger. But it will appear on full examination that they are merely exceptions which prove the rule in favour of their exclusion. It is likewise to be recollected that a display of talents before the world sometimes makes the public clamour for reward to their possessor at a rate which compels Government to give him what it would rather bestow on honest mediocrity. This compulsory arrangement however rarely outlasts the temporary excitement.

Thus the late Sir David Ochterlony, who belonged to the dangerous class, was appointed Resident at Delhi when none but a man of a capacious and energetic mind could hold the office. But good policy returning with peace and internal security, a Governor of proper calibre succeeded to power, and sent him back to obscurity. War and alarm afterwards recalled that general to the highest situations, and he went down hill again, as soon as the Pilots of the state found they could no longer turn his parts to account. Indeed he had obtained so inconvenient a reputation that it would have absorbed the whole credit of any operation in which they could employ him.

I beg to observe however that abilities, rarely universal, when thrust forward for promotion by popular prejudice, have generally been put into situations which neutralised or made them of no avail. Thus, the Hero of Seetabuldee displayed presence of mind and indisputable capacity, in calculating the result of a daring movement that turned the tide of battle at a critical moment, when it was threatening to swamp all that great men toil for in India. But he was not made Political Agent on a warlike frontier, to dispute the counsels of the legitimate organs of Government, or placed at the head of an Irregular Brigade where superior abilities might have shone so as to humiliate Senior Officers. He received a Paymastership, his Baboos cheated him, he forfeited his security, and did the good cause some service by shewing the folly of disturbing the long honoured practice of preferring none to lucrative and high appointments unless His Majesty's Ministers, the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, or the private regards of local Patrons vouch for the individual's merits.

These are strong instances, and we doubt not convincing to the impartial reader. The covenanted servant accounts rationally for the instinctive abhorrence with which Secretaries to Government and other high functionaries used to regard a Free Press. "Were such Daily and Weekly watch dogs of public opinion to bay our official gentlemen of mediocrity, as the Times, Morning Chronicle, Spectator and Examiner do in England, two thirds of our incumbents would have been scared from their desks

any time these twenty years past." We trust the march of intellect will bring no such calamity to the city of Palaces. Our author, original in most of his views, depicts the consequences of the Burmese war.

War in a new and consoling light, while he coincides in opinion respecting the glory of it with the eminent persons who had the merit of conducting that grand enterprise. "Your men of talents would have pronounced the cause frivolous, the probable expense utterly disproportionate to the object, and the season disastrous to an Army in such a climate. But look to the result! A Lord of the Bedchamber of truly moderate parts, under the guidance of official gentlemen scarcely abler or better informed than himself, earned an Earldom and went home with the same guerdon on his brows that rewarded the services of a Chatham or a Nelson. If those who dictated what he consented to, and wrote the accounts of it which he signed, have been neglected by the fountain of honour, it is not their fault. Glory, the foremost in value of all human acquisitions, is not to be obtained without proportionate expenditure in men and money. We have in this case a certain criterion of the quantity of it acquired during three years war, in the eighteen millions sterling which the campaigns cost. The numbers of brave men who perished by disease will have as good an effect on future ages as if they had found an enemy to contend with and fallen in real battles.

The Honorable Company's debt on account of this struggle, Political rather than Military, whatever clamours may be heard at present will produce great practical good in the end. The Duke of Wellington wisely approved of the Half Batta order. He probably recollected the discovery of his illustrious predecessor, the Duke of Marlborough. His Grace had got a brave soldier rewarded by a grant of money; and expecting the man to fight better than ever, he offered him a dangerous post of honour which might lead to more laurels. But the hero replied to the astonished Duke that, being now in comfortable circumstances, he would rather decline the proffered service of danger. The inference is plain. Besides, it has long been said by old Indian Officers themselves, that "Economy is the life of the Army." India however, is so remote from European comforts, that one who has plenty of pay is irresistibly inclined to buy the best substitutes for them which he can find. Hence the whole of a subaltern's allowances are squandered in the vain hope of procuring equal convenience with one of the same rank at home. The Burmese War therefore, by causing a reduction of pay enforces economy, and therefore gives life in consequence of this the Bengal Army was never more martially disposed, and when they next face an enemy if they do not fight well, I shall own that many opinions require revision.

This excellent pamphlet concludes with some animated strictures on the temerity of the present Governor General in selecting certain Secretaries of a very suspicious character. We think the author hasty in believing all the civil reports in circulation against the gentlemen alluded to. At least it is fair to hope that good Company and the air of Chowringhee may in a few years reduce them to the happy mediocrity of their distinguished predecessors, and one or two illustrious remnants of the ancient stock. We have now reasonable prospects of seeing the bulwarks of Indian rule restored, and may say or sing, in earnest truth, with the theoretical poet when he thought himself satirical,

Return O Patronage with wings outspread,
To hatch a new Saturnian age of lead.

[*Delhi Gazette.*]

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

PARIS, May 28.

The Chamber of Deputies voted yesterday in a manner which has once more shown that in questions of finance Ministers cannot always reckon on the support of all those of their friends who make it a point of voting for them on other questions. The vote was on the third article of the bill for regulating the sinking fund, by which it had been recommended by the committee to provide that no part of the redeemed funds should be disposed of without a special law. The suggestion of the committee was warmly supported by Ministers as if they had originally put the clause into the bill themselves, and considered it as indispensable to the measure proposed. M. Dupin (who did not preside on the occasion) spoke with some animation, and at some length, against the clause, which was ultimately carried by a majority of 159 over 143, leaving an absolute majority in favour of Ministers of only 9. A great number of members who regularly vote against Ministers did not attend yesterday's sitting: had they done so, Ministers would have experienced a defeat which would have rendered their situation rather embarrassing; for although the clause was proposed by the committee, and therefore did not originate with Ministers, the latter adopted and defended it with so much energy, that they appeared to wish that the fate of the whole measure should be made to depend on the passing of that clause. Five Ministers present voted in the majority of 152.

The *Novelliste* of last night announces the arrival of despatches to the Government from Constantinople, dated the 8th instant. That paper adds, that the Sultan had at length consented to give up the district of Adana to Mehemet Ali, and publishes a firman by which the cessions made to Mehemet Ali, including Adana, are established, and a general amnesty proclaimed in regard to such inhabitants of Asia Minor and others as had been induced to join the standard of Ibrahim, or to afford him any assistance. We are at the same time informed that Count Orloff, the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces in Constantinople, arrived at Bouyoukderay on the evening of the 5th—that

is, on the eve of the day on which the act of cession and amnesty was proclaimed. Some letters from Vienna give us the additional information that when, in consequence of this closing of all differences between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, Count Orloff was requested to fix the day for the embarkation of the Russian troops for Odessa, he declared that he neither could fix the day nor say anything about it until after he had applied for and received the orders of his Sovereign. As the Court of Russia has already, on more than one occasion, intimated that it will not suffer the Sultan to make any concession to the Pacha of Egypt which would deprive him of territory and restrict the imperial authority, it remains to be seen whether that Court will approve of the conditions on which the Sultan has consented to make peace. The general presumption seems to be, that Russia will not give any such approbation, but, on the contrary, that she will do her utmost to render the continuance of her forces in the Bosphorus as long necessary as possible. It is said that most of the officers who form part of the expedition to Turkey declare that even if the Sultan were inclined for peace, purchaseable by sacrifices, they will carry on the war with the Egyptians as if solely for Russian account, and never stop until they have driven Mehemet Ali to his former limits in Egypt, and compelled him once more to acknowledge himself a Pacha and servant of the Sultan.

The "disinterestedness" of Russia in taking part in such a cause is a most amusing part of the profession issued every now and then from the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. The Emperor Nicholas has formerly travelled a good deal, and he has mixed much with all sorts of people in the most civilized parts of Europe. How his Imperial Majesty can have so far forgotten what he has seen as to imagine that when he speaks to Europe he may use the language which he is in the habit of addressing to his own Moujiks, with as little risk of exciting incredulity and derision as he would encounter in that quarter, is a matter which seems to surpass the understanding of all reasonable men. The "disinterestedness" of Russia may perhaps amount to this, that the Autocrat looks upon Turkey as so natural an inheritance to Russia, that he will suffer no one to touch a morsel of what has hitherto constituted that empire. But will he resist the temptation which is now so opportunely thrown in his way, and put off to a future period the acquisition of such an inheritance? His armies are now in quiet possession of Turkey, and every now and then a new pretence may be put forth to justify the prolongation of their stay there. England appears resolved not to adopt any energetic measures in order to preserve the independence of Turkey; France will certainly do nothing without England; Austria is more inclined to settle the matter quietly and amicably, and take a share of the spoil, than quarrel with Russia, whose alliance she wants to assist her in checking the progress of "liberal ideas" in Germany, and consolidating her power and influence in Italy; Prussia has nothing to lose nor to gain by the fall or the prosperity of the Ottoman empire. These are circumstances too favourable to the accomplishment of the design on Turkey, so long ago formed by Russia, not to threaten a speedy dissolution of the Ottoman empire. May it not, then, be said of the "disinterested" good offices of the Emperor Nicholas with regard to Turkey, as M. de Talleyrand is reported to have said of Napoleon's fate after the allies had passed the Rhine—*"C'est le commencement de la fin?"*

Some wag has been playing a hoax on a great number of persons in Paris, by calling in a carriage, and leaving a card with the name of Count Luchesi Palli (the reputed husband of the Duchess of Berri) printed on it. As soon as the arrival of the Count was thus made known (the *Journal des Debats* was the first who spoke of it) the police, it seems, went immediately in quest of him, and after a good deal of inquiry discovered the trick which had been played. The *Messenger* had gone so far as to give circumstantial accounts of the Count's visits at Court, and the nature of the reception he had met there, as the husband of a Royal personage by a left-handed marriage. It is positively affirmed that the Count has not been, and will not come to Paris.—*Times, May 28.*

POLICE.

A very neatly-dressed old maiden lady, named Sarah Smales was brought up charged by a young gentleman, an indigo broker, under the following circumstances, the detail of which caused some laughter—

The complainant, who evidently pitied the object of his accusation, stated that the defendant had been employed by him to take care of his house in the city some time ago, and was respected by him. She, however, took it into her head to look upon him in a light not altogether agreeable to most masters, for she regarded him with the eyes of love. The poor old woman fancied too that her love was returned, and she at length became so complete a "bore" that he was obliged to dispense with her services altogether, as the only means of getting rid of the painful incumbrance of her affections. She, immediately after her discharge, commenced a paper war, which she soon turned into a series of hostilities against his windows, and as the result of her misplaced and unrequited attachment began to assume the appearance of serious operations, he thought that it was necessary an appeal to the strong power of the law, which had no gallant preference of the sex. She had just smashed four panes of glass, and he believed she meant to give him the benefit of the full "light and air of heaven."

The Lord Mayor hoped that the complainant had not given any encouragement to the defendant. (Laughter.)

The defendant declared that she had reason to believe that he preferred her to all the rest of her sex. She confessed that she had conceived for him a very tender regard, but she now considered him unworthy of her affection, for after he had "thrown a flame over her," and caught hold of her love, he suddenly grew cold and insensible.

The Lord Mayor thought that such conduct was extremely disrespectful to a lady who had so much superiority upon the score of years. (A laugh.) His Lordship expressed a wish to know the substance of the letters which the defendant had written.

The complainant stated, that the poor old lady generally commenced her epistles in the tender way, but her style gradually ran into the violent and the vindictive. She accused him of sorcery, of having cast a charm over her and of denying her the return of an affection which had become a portion of her existence. But what annoyed him most was, the smashing of his windows.

The Lord Mayor did not think that a man was at all to blame for not falling in love with his grandmother, and had no idea of censuring the complainant for feeling dissatisfaction at the mischief done to his windows because he was deaf to the voice of love. (Laughter.) His Lordship said he had no doubt that the defendant would be improved by a day or two's cool visit to Mr. Teague, the governor of the Compter.

The complainant appeared unwilling that anything like severity should be exercised towards her, and was assured that she should be treated with the greatest kindness. He had a respect for her, he said, and could in no way account for her infatuation.

The Lord Mayor.—It is indeed infatuation, and it is odd that no age is exempt from it amongst the ladies. I remember a scene which occurred in the presence of certain parish officers. They were sitting at their wine at the workhouse one day, and they called the matron of the house, who was 96 years of age, before them, to solve a difficulty in which they were placed in the course of their conversation. The church warden said to her, "You must not suppose, my dear madam, that we mean any offence to you, but be good enough to inform us at what age a female drops all idea of being in love." The matron turned her back with ineffable scorn upon the gentlemen, and mumbled out through her toothless jaws, "How can I answer such a question? You must ask somebody who is longer in the world." (Great laughter.) "Now," said his Lordship, "I think the complainant would have no objection to marry you after all."

Defendant.—Oh dear, to be sure; I'd like him of all things. (Laughter.)

The defendant was then for a few days consigned to the care of Mr. Teague, who had directions to treat her very kindly, but to keep her very cool.

THE RHADAMANTHUS.

OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIMENTS MADE ON BOARD H. M. STEAM VESSEL RHADAMANTHUS, by HENRY CHATFIELD, Member of the School of Naval Architecture.

On Saturday the 12th of January, H. M. Steam vessel Rhadamanthus made a short excursion from Hamoaze, nearly to the Eddystone and back, for the purpose of trying her general efficiency, after having had her engines, &c., overhauled at Plymouth yard. The Rhadamanthus was at sea (that is, outside the Break water) about two hours, during which time I directed my attention to some of those features connected with the science of steam navigation, which, in my opinion, should be carefully looked into on board every steam-boat; and the subjoined particulars are the results of my observations on board.

In all accounts relating to nautical experiments it is desirable to be as explicit as possible in speaking of the state of the sea, which I conceive may be best judged of by knowing its absolute effect upon a vessel. To determine this, a pendulum was provided, by means of which it was ascertained that the rolling of the Rhadamanthus, whilst carrying her foresail, fore-top-sail, and jib, averaged nine degrees, both out and home; that is, six degrees to leeward, and three degrees to windward. Sometimes the ship rolled as far as 15° to leeward, and, on her return, as much as 6° to windward; but, upon the whole, the average of nine degrees may be considered a fair mean of the angle of oscillation.

The Rhadamanthus is one of the only two armed steam-vessels now in the British Navy. Her tonnage is 812 tons, and the power of her engines is estimated to be 220 horses' power. The following are those dimensions of her machinery which it is essential to give, to enable the reader to judge of the value of the facts ascertained:—

Her power consists of two engines of.....	110 horses' power each.
Diameter of Cylinder.....	55 inches.
Length of Stroke.....	5 feet.
Extreme diameter of which, from outside to outside of paddle.....	18 feet 6 inches.
Area of each paddle.....	20 feet, 8 ins.
Height of shaft above water.....	5 feet 6 inches.
Consumption of coals per hour, by actual measurement.....	95 bushels.
Draft of water of the vessel, forward.....	13 feet 3 inches.
..... abaft.....	14 3

The length of the stroke and the diameter of the cylinder enable us to compute the quantity of steam expended at each revolution; the consumption of coals per hour informs us what fuel is actually necessary to the generation of a given quantity of steam; the circle described by the paddle, the size of the paddle, and velocity with

which it travels, give us a true measure of the motive power employed to propel the vessel; and by means of the draught of water (and the lines from which the vessel was built) we may proceed to calculate the effect of the magnitude and form of the vessel's displacement, in resisting direct progressive motion, which may be done with mathematical accuracy from the data already given.

It will be seen that the velocity of the paddle is the only variable quantity. Now, it is obvious that this velocity is dependent on the following considerations, viz., the working-pressure of the steam, the efficiency of the condenser, the accurate working of the machinery, the state of the sea, direction of the wind, and other contingencies, which it is the business of an experimentalist to remark. The annexed table, and the observations which follow it, were therefore made on the day of trial, to exemplify the means by which I propose to carry my views into effect:

TABLE. January 12th, 1833.					
Time of Observation.....	2h. 30m. P.M.	Sh. P.M.	Sh. P.M.	Sh. P.M.	Sh. P.M.
Wind.....	E.S.E.	E.S.E.	E.S.E.	E.S.E.	E.S.E.
Vessel's Course.....	S.W. by S.	S.W. by S.	S.W. by S.	N.E. by E.	N.E. by E.
Working pressure of the steam.....	3½ lbs.	4½ lbs.	4½ lbs.		
Height of Mercury in barometer attached to condenser.....	27 inches.	27½ inches.	27½ inches.		
No. of Strokes or revolutions, per minute.....	13 Strk.	16 Strk.	17 Strk.		
Speed of the vessel.....	6½ knots.	8 knots.	8½ knots.		
State of the sea.....	considerable swell, causing vessel to roll nine degrees.				
Remarks.....	No sails set. Foresail, fore foresail, foretop-sail & jib, topsail & jib.				

There was a fresh breeze from E. S. E. which occasioned considerable sea, and as there was a long ground swell at the same time from S. W. they together produced rather a heavy cross sea. In going out the vessel steered S. W. by S. which brought the wind abaft the beam; but on her return, her course was N. E. by E. at which time she was close-hauled, the wind being then before the beam.

It will be found by reference to the table of experiments—

1. That when the wind was abaft the beam, the speed of the vessel was less than when she was close-hauled, her velocity being retarded by the head-sea in one case, while it was accelerated by a following-sea in the other.

2. That the speed of the Rhadamanthus, by log, was in every instance just half as many knots per hour as the number of revolutions made by the wheel per minute.

The speed of the vessel being half as many knots per hour as the number of strokes per minute, was a curious result; but it by no means follows, that what was true in the case of the Rhadamanthus must of necessity be true for other steam-boats. Whether it is so, or not, can only be found out by a methodical registry of facts on board other boats, and instituting careful comparisons of results. Had the Rhadamanthus gone out for the express purpose of making experiments, many particulars relating to herself would have been ascertained which are now unknown. She would then, of course, have been tried both with and without sail; also against a head sea, as well as with a following sea; and under other circumstances, from which a more definite idea might be formed of the true character of the vessel. But this was not the object of the cruise; and I made the observations which are the object of this paper solely for my own satisfaction.

If a skeleton form of report were drawn up with some care, and supplied to every steam-vessel accompanied with the necessary directions, we should shortly discover what results are common to all, and what are not; and there can be no doubt that if we were to examine and reason upon every new truth philosophically, we should soon attain an intimate knowledge of some of those laws of nature with which we are at present very imperfectly acquainted and thereby establish true inductive principles to proceed upon.

The object of those summary remarks is to make good this position, by showing that it is not difficult to make a systematic collection of useful facts, by means of which correct calculations may be made relative to velocity, consumption of fuel, necessary stowage for a stated distance or period, &c. &c. Under the existing practice, the naval architect and the civil engineer act too independently of each other but if it be our wish to become enlightened in the science of steam navigation, the naval constructor must not only study the "effects" produced upon a vessel at sea, but must also acquaint himself with the peculiarities of his ship and the performance of the engines, with a view to arrive at the "causes" which operate in making different boats more or less efficient. This can only be done by putting aside every thing like professional craft, and instituting repeated experiments, in order to analyze them upon mathematical principles.

In conclusion, it may be remarked, that the Rhadamanthus manifested none of that vibratory motion, on the day in question, which is so commonly complained of on board almost all steam-boats; at the same time, it can hardly be said with confidence, that she is therefore free from the tremulous motion usually produced by the concussion of the paddles as they come in contact with the water, since the number of revolutions did not exceed seventeen per minute during the day. And before we close these elementary remarks, it may be as well to state, that the Rhadamanthus has an after stoke-room, in addition to the engine room on the fore-side of the boilers, and that the temperatures of both were noted. That in the engine-room was 58° while the passage between the boilers leading to the after stoke-room was 104°, and

the after stoke-room itself was—* The state of the atmosphere was 50°. Every scuttle upon deck having been open during the whole cruise, and the foresail being immediately over the engine room, caused a great current of air below. The scuttle of the after stoke-room was also open.

The inferences to be drawn from these last observations are, that in a warm climate, or in bad weather, the ventilation of the steam vessel, or some mode of preventing the radiation of heat from the boilers, are points worthy of attention; and it is hoped that enough has been said in the former part of this paper, to prove that much benefit would accrue from supplying every steam-boat with a skeleton form of report, and enforcing strict attention to every minute circumstance with constituting real experience.—*Nautical Magazine for May.*

MISCELLANEA

EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS.—"The Lord Mayor.—Prisoner, did you tell Mr. Mott where you bought it?"

"Mr. Humphreys (for the prisoner).—He is not bound to answer that question."

"The Lord Mayor.—Well, if you didn't tell Mr. Mott where you got it, you will tell me, perhaps?"

"The prisoner appeared to be desirous to speak."

"Mr. Humphreys.—You are not obliged to tell anything about it."

"The Lord Mayor.—I will not allow any solicitor to interfere for the purpose of preventing me from examining a prisoner." His Lordship repeated the question.

"Mr. Humphreys.—My Lord, you have not the power legally to examine the prisoner in that manner. It is illegal in every respect."

"The Lord Mayor.—I shall examine him according to my own plan. I am convinced that I am justified. I have, upon former occasions, mentioned the authority upon which I act."

"Mr. Humphreys.—I beg, then, that your questions may be put down, my Lord. I repeat to my client, that he is not bound to answer."

"The Lord Mayor.—An honest man would not refuse to answer any question: on the contrary, he would be glad to acquit himself if he could by answering every question. I should wish to discharge him this moment, if I thought him an honest man; but you don't wish him to answer me."

"Mr. Humphreys.—I certainly object to such a mode of examination as your Lordship is pursuing. It is against the practice of magistrates, and wholly unknown to professional men."

This is a description of dialogue that is constantly occurring at the Mansion House, where the Lord Mayor, with much good sense, but altogether contrary to a favourite maxim of law, invariably endeavours to learn all he can from the prisoner. This practice is always strenuously resisted by the attorneys, and has given rise to much controversy. The question lies in a small compass: there is but one purpose to serve—the detection of crime for the sake of the public; this object is to be pursued in all ways, unless where the individual inconvenience does not exceed the chance of good to the community. Now, is this the case in interrogating a culprit in a preliminary examination? The question is, is a man to go to prison on the suspicion of crime? His own story will probably commit him if he is guilty; if innocent, it is highly probable that it will discharge him. Here both parties gain. The only objection that has been urged is on the ground of the examination being a species of moral torture; true, but only to the criminal; and why is he to be spared moral torture, when the welfare of the public is the result? If the examination of an innocent man produced moral torture, then we should have to weigh his individual inconvenience, and the advantage likely to arise to the public. But such an interrogatory is so far from being either an inconvenience or a torture to an innocent man accused of crime, that he would court such an opportunity of clearing himself, and consider it his best privilege. This, however, would not suit the Old Bailey practitioners, whose harvest comes after the committal—who care very little for the result of the trial, but who must have their client safe in gaol for a season. Most generally the accused is guilty, and the objection to the interrogatory is therefore intelligible enough; they dare not say that they dread their client will commit himself; they therefore mouth out some of law, the spirit of which is always that the criminal shall have a good chance of escape. With the lawyers the whole matter is an affair of art; the game must be caught by rule, or not at all. This is the meaning of giving "law" in sport; if the object were to kill vermin, the fox would be slaughtered at once; but no, he is let go—he runs, until distance secures him a fair chance of escape; and this is called "law." So it is in the game of justice; the lawyers enjoy, nay live by, the chase! and an unceremonious destruction of the vermin-criminal would not only put an end to the day's sport but the day's subsistence. It is the rule, therefore, to give him "law." First the game is bred and preserved, and then he is bagged. He is then let loose—law is given; if death ensue, it is all fair the probability, however, is that the quarry will give the hounds another run.—*New Monthly Mag. for May 1833.*

THE PRESS-POWER.—There is something remarkable in the manner in which the power of the press—the Fourth Estate—has been recognised by the two rival despots of the East. Both the Grand Seigneur and the Pacha of Egypt, in different ways, have recognised the power of the press. The Grand Seigneur, having been questioned, I have omitted to insert it. Had these elementary hints been published for some other object than merely to invite inquiry into the characters of all steam boats, there would have been some objection perhaps to the omission; but at present there can be none.

legitimacy of the periodical press. In a speech from the throne, the Sultan acknowledged the services of the editor of the Smyrna newspaper and permitted that functionary to address him *vis à vis*, after the manner of a royal representative, in a set speech. The Pacha of Egypt has sent over to Europe for the editor of a newspaper, as he used to do for steam-engines and spinning-jennies, and has assigned him a salary equal probably to that of one of his best generals. This direct mode of acknowledging the New Power is very different from the style in which it is alternately coquetted with, and flouted by the old governments of the West. The orientals, of course, intend to use it as a tool—a slave, and already class it as a weapon in their armoury. In Europe, the press sets up for itself: it is sometimes master, sometimes agent: its position is uncertain; it neither knows how to obey nor always to command, and yet it feels conscious of the power of ordaining. The depositaries of power in Europe are various, and the sources often independent of each other. The periodical press sometimes speaks with the voice of one, and sometimes another; it now proclaims the privileges of the aristocracy, now the rights of the people. The way in which it has been treated is curious. Were the monster of Frankenstein among us, what should we do with him? The timid would cry, Kill him at once, we cannot bear this constant state of alarm; the prudent would say, No, let us bind his arms, and then he may wander where he pleases—he can hurt nobody; on the contrary, wiser persons would say, Tie his legs, his arms may then beat the air; the generous would say, Let us teach him, and when he knows what is right, he will feel no inclination to do mischief. Objectors however, would cry, Education is tedious; who is to answer for him in the meantime? Build a strong house for him, chain him to the wall, feed him on bread and water, and then if he likes to learn, let him—he will have leisure. Under such circumstances, it is not likely that his education would proceed very fast: he must, however, learn in his own defence; if not, his masters, getting tired, would blind him to save trouble, and then the result would be like that of the glorious book of Solomon, he would pull the house down over the head of himself and his persecutors. So may be shadowed forth the present condition of the press in Europe.—*New Monthly Mag. for May, 1833.*

NEW LANTERNS FOR SHIPS.—Captain de Coninck, of the Danish navy, has invented a new kind of signal-lantern, found to be of great utility in the navy, the light of which is much more brilliant than that at present in use. It is obtained on the arduous principle without the use of glass, by conveying a current of air through the lantern. The lamp will contain sufficient oil to last several hours, and by the construction of the lantern, not be liable to the effects of bad weather. It is said to have been tried with complete success in a gale of wind. The above officer has also applied the same principles to the construction of deck lanterns, eight or ten of which, when placed midships, are sufficient to give light to the guns on the deck of the largest man of war. The light is so well secured from external effects, that it withstands the concussion produced by the firing of guns, which so frequently extinguishes the light of the common lanterns. The efficacy of this invention has been put to a severe test on board two Danish frigates. For this purpose the lantern was suspended from the muzzle of the gun, which was fired with the lantern in that position. A common lantern placed by the gun was immediately extinguished by the concussion of the first discharge, while the new lantern remained steady during 14 successive discharges, when it was extinguished by the united effect of the concussion and the great vibratory motion it obtained.—*Repertory of Patents.*

Yesterday being the birth-day of the Princess Victoria, when her Royal Highness entered her 15th year, the day was observed at Kensington with much feeling of attachment. The bells of the parish church rang merry peals from an early hour in the morning, the flags were hoisted on the church, &c. At 12 o'clock the Duchess of Kent and the Princess received the congratulations of all the members of their Royal Highnesses' household. In the afternoon they received visits from the Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, the Princess Sophia, the Duke of Sussex, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Princess Sophia Matilda, and Prince George of Cambridge. Almost all the foreign Ministers and the nobility and gentry in town called during the day to leave their names for the Duchess of Kent. At night their Royal Highnesses trades-people in the neighbourhood of Kensington illuminated their houses. In the evening the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, with a large suite, went to the ball given in honour of the day at the Palace of St. James's by their Majesties.—*Gazette, May 22.*

GEOGRAPHICAL JOURNIES.—Last summer a geographical journey through the south-eastern parts of Siberia was undertaken by M. Feodorow, at the command of the emperor, who has appointed a sum of 22,000 rubles to defray the expenses. Still more important results are anticipated from the three years' journey about to be undertaken by the state-councillor, Fass, Secretary to the Academy of Sciences. His route is from Petersburg to Peking, through eastern Siberia.

THE NEW PALACE.—The bas-reliefs illustrating the naval and military victories of Great Britain during the reign of George IV. have been placed at the top of the new palace instead of on the marble arch, as originally intended. These fine specimens of sculpture executed by Westmacott,

BOMBAY. Printed and published by SORABJEE DORABJEE, Church-lane, where all the EDITOR

* This story was in print long before the Lord Mayor was born.
* The paddles were reefed nine inches, the diameter of the wheel being 21 feet.